

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

2013 Agency Plan for the White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders

Goal Area	Agency Objective	Strategic Activity	Benchmarks
Data	Improve the data collected on AAPIs in each program.	Disaggregate Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander, and Asian American data.	Data collected on AAPIs in compliance with OMB Directive 15. (Specific benchmark will be identified after VA holds its first interoffice AAPI workgroup during 2 QTR/FY 13.)
Data	Improve the data collected on AAPIs in each program.	Support implementation of pilot data disaggregation system model in other programs.	Data disaggregation model created in various programs. (Specific benchmark will be identified after VA holds its first interoffice AAPI workgroup during 1 QTR/FY 13.)
Data	Improve the data collected on AAPIs in each program.	Make data available publicly, through online mechanisms like Data.gov.	Mechanism created and implemented to provide data publicly online. (Specific benchmark will be identified after VA holds its first interoffice AAPI workgroup during 1 QTR/FY 13.)
Capacity Building	Increase the AAPI community's access to federal funding.	Evaluate funding opportunity outreach process and track applications/bids and awards to capture stats on race, national origin, and gender.	Target: Outreach/assistance to AAPI and AAPI-serving vendors/contractors increased. (Specific benchmark will be identified after VA holds its first interoffice AAPI workgroup during 1 QTR/FY 13.)
Capacity Building	Increase the AAPI community's access to federal funding.	Ensure that meaningful metrics are incorporated into funding competitions to encourage the inclusion of minority communities.	Metrics identified and incorporated into funding competitions. (Specific benchmark will be identified after VA holds its first interoffice AAPI workgroup during 1 QTR/FY 13.)
Capacity Building	Increase the AAPI community's access to federal funding.	Build a reporting mechanism into notices of funding that requires grantees to demonstrate their projects' impact on minority communities.	Reporting mechanism incorporated into notices. (Specific benchmark will be identified after VA holds its first interoffice AAPI workgroup during 1 QTR/FY 13.)
Capacity Building	Increase the AAPI community's access to federal funding.	Promote AAPI presence on Federal Advisory Councils.	Increase AAPI representation on VA's advisory committees. (Specific benchmark will be identified after VA holds its first interoffice AAPI workgroup during 1 QTR/FY 13.)

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Capacity Building	Increase the AAPI community's access to federal funding.	Modify grant applications to include social inclusion language.	Grant applications are modified to include social inclusion language. (Specific benchmark will be identified after VA holds its first interoffice AAPI workgroup during 1 QTR/FY 13.)
Capacity Building	Institutionalize VA's implementation of this initiative.	Formal or informal internal working groups will respond to the WHIAAPI and EO 13515 compliance accountability; meet on a regular basis to work on a range of issues, including suggesting policy changes and ways to improve outreach to AAPIs.	Convene seven member interoffice AAPI workgroup three times per fiscal year, beginning 1st Quarter/FY 2013.
Capacity Building	Institutionalize VA's implementation of this initiative.	Increase the attendance of EEO and Special Emphasis Program Managers at annual AAPI conferences for them to gain a better understanding and knowledge of AAPI cultures.	Increase attendance of EEO, Special Emphasis Program Managers, and senior leadership at AAPI National Annual Conferences, in accordance with VA policy and budget permitting. (Specific benchmark will be identified after VA holds its first interoffice AAPI workgroup during 1 QTR/FY 13.)
Capacity Building	Improve federal civil rights protections for the AAPI community.	Rigorously enforce civil rights statutes/laws that require equal access and non-discrimination in federal programs that involve grants, loans, contracts, financial aid and other benefits.	Continue current efforts to enforce civil rights statutes/laws. (Specific benchmark will be identified after VA holds its first interoffice AAPI workgroup during 2 QTR/FY 13.)
Capacity Building	Improve federal civil rights protections for the AAPI community.	Continue to work with Department of Defense and veterans groups to address compensation of Filipino veterans of World War II.	Meeting conducted with DOD and Veterans groups. (Specific benchmark will be identified after VA holds its first interoffice AAPI workgroup during 2 QTR/FY 13.)
Language Access	Increase access to VA programs by providing culturally and linguistically appropriate services.	Confer with Department of Justice to evaluate status of agency plan related to Executive Order 13166.	Meeting conducted with DOJ. (Specific benchmark will be identified after VA holds its first interoffice AAPI workgroup during 2 QTR/FY 13.)

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Language Access	Increase access to VA programs by providing culturally and linguistically appropriate services.	Identify agency materials that reach an AAPI audience and monitor to ensure that materials are culturally and linguistically appropriate.	Agency materials identified for cultural and linguistic appropriateness. (Specific benchmark will be identified after VA holds its first interoffice AAPI workgroup during 2 QTR/FY 13.)
Language Access	Increase access to VA programs by providing culturally and linguistically appropriate services.	Assess and address need for in-language services across programs.	Programs assessed to address need for in-language services. (Specific benchmark will be identified after VA holds its first interoffice AAPI workgroup during 1 Qtr/FY 13.)
Workforce Diversity	Foster the recruitment, career development and advancement of AAPIs in the VA.	Increase outreach to AAPI communities to improve the application rates for VA employment.	Increase outreach. (Specific benchmark will be identified after VA holds its first interoffice AAPI workgroup during 1 Qtr/FY 13.)
Workforce Diversity	Foster the recruitment, career development and advancement of AAPIs in the VA.	Continue partnering with AANAPISIs and other AAPI organizations to increase awareness and participation in internship, fellowship, and work-study programs.	Increase awareness of programs and increase participation in programs. (Specific benchmark will be identified after VA holds its first interoffice AAPI workgroup during 1 Qtr/FY 13.)
Workforce Diversity	Foster the recruitment, career development and advancement of AAPIs in the VA.	Increase applicants for Senior Executive Service (SES) positions.	Increase number of SES applicants. (Specific benchmark will be identified after VA holds its first interoffice AAPI workgroup during 1 QTR/FY 13.)
Workforce Diversity	Foster the recruitment, career development and advancement of AAPIs in the VA.	Develop and include diversity and affirmative employment measures as critical elements in executive and management performance plans.	Measures identified and included in performance plans. (Specific benchmark will be identified after VA holds its first interoffice AAPI workgroup during 2 QTR/FY 13.)
Workforce Diversity	Foster the recruitment, career development and advancement of AAPIs in the VA.	Implement training to educate AAPI employees on the available leadership, career development, and educational programs.	Employee training developed and implemented. (Specific benchmark will be identified after VA holds its first interoffice AAPI workgroup during 2 QTR/FY 13.)

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Agency-specific	In conjunction with HUD, assist 24,400 additional homeless Veterans (12,200/year) in obtaining housing and reduce the number of homeless Veterans to 35,000 in 2013, to be measured by the January 2014 Point-In-Time homeless count	Identify locations of high populations of homeless Veterans and develop measures and tracking system to track status of homeless Veterans, by race, ethnicity, and gender.	Locations with high populations of homeless identified and REG tracking system developed. (Specific benchmark will be identified after VA holds its first interoffice AAPI workgroup during 1 QTR/FY 13.)
Agency-specific	In conjunction with HUD, assist 24,400 additional homeless Veterans (12,200/year) in obtaining housing and reduce the number of homeless Veterans to 35,000 in 2013, to be measured by the January 2014 Point-In-Time homeless count	Develop policy recommendations based on findings from AAPI homelessness study.	Policy recommendations are developed based on findings. (Specific benchmark will be identified after VA holds its first interoffice AAPI workgroup during 1 QTR/FY 13.)
Agency-specific	In conjunction with HUD, assist 24,400 additional homeless Veterans (12,200/year) in obtaining housing and reduce the number of homeless Veterans to 35,000 in 2013, to be measured by the January 2014 Point-In-Time homeless count	Develop and implement plans to assist AAPI Veterans with employment services and housing.	Plan to assist AAPI Veterans developed and implemented. (Specific benchmark will be identified after VA holds its first interoffice AAPI workgroup during 1 QTR/FY 13.)
Agency-specific	Improve the quality, access, and value of health care, including mental health care, provided to AAPI Veterans.	Increase AAPI awareness of health resources and accessibility to healthcare, including behavioral health care services.	Outreach/assistance to AAPI Veteran population increased. (Specific benchmark will be identified after VA holds its first interoffice AAPI workgroup during 1 Qtr/FY 13.)

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Agency-specific	Improve the quality, access, and value of health care, including mental health care, provided to AAPI Veterans.	Improve the quality, access, and value of mental health care provided to AAPI Veterans.	<p>Target 1: 96% of mental health patients will receive a mental health evaluation within 15 days following their first mental health encounter.</p> <p>Target 2: 97% of eligible patients will be screened at required intervals for Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD).</p> <p>Target 3: 97% of all eligible patients will be screened at required intervals for alcohol misuse.</p> <p>Target 4: 96% of all eligible patients will be screened for depression.</p> <p>Target 5: As per national policy, achieve a minimum of 95% implementation of all required services at all VHA medical facilities and Health Care Systems (HCS).</p>
Agency-specific	Improve the quality, access, and value of health care, including mental health care, provided to AAPI Veterans.	Identify and implement culturally competent practices and interventions.	Provide cultural competency training that would include information on the AAPI community. (Specific benchmark will be identified after VA holds its first interoffice AAPI workgroup during 1 QTR/FY 13.)
Agency-specific	Improve the quality, access, and value of health care, including mental health care, provided to AAPI Veterans.	Foster recruitment, development and advancement of AAPI health practitioners.	Foster recruitment, development, and advancement of AAPI health practitioners. (Specific benchmark will be identified after VA holds its first interoffice AAPI workgroup during 1 QTR/FY 13.)
Agency-specific	Improve the quality, access, and value of health care, including mental health care, provided to AAPI Veterans.	Develop relationships between regional VA offices and entities and community organizations to improve outreach to the AAPI community on health and other VA services.	Relationships developed with AAPI community organizations. (Specific benchmark will be identified after VA holds its first interoffice AAPI workgroup during 1 Qtr/FY 13.)

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Agency-specific	Improve the quality, access, and value of health care, including mental health care, provided to AAPI Veterans.	Promote adherence to HHS National Standards for Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS) in health care facilities.	Adherence to HHS National Standards for CLAS promoted. (Specific benchmark will be identified after VA holds its first interoffice AAPI workgroup during 1 Qtr/FY 13.)
Agency-specific	Increase awareness and access to health services for AAPI Veterans in rural areas.	Identify and conduct outreach to Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander Veterans in rural areas throughout the U.S. and the Pacific Jurisdictions.	Outreach identified and conducted to AAPI Veterans in rural areas. (Specific benchmark will be identified after VA holds its first interoffice AAPI workgroup during 1 Qtr/FY 13.)
Agency-specific	Increase awareness and access to health services for AAPI Veterans in rural areas.	Identify and implement effective rural health delivery practices (e.g. telehealth).	Rural Health delivery practices identified and implemented. (Specific benchmark will be identified after VA holds its first interoffice AAPI workgroup during 1 QTR/FY 13.)
Agency-specific	Increase awareness and access to health services for AAPI Veterans in rural areas.	Develop partnerships with rural organizations to provide services, assist with outreach activities, and identify and address barriers to access.	Partnerships developed with rural organizations. (Specific benchmark will be identified after VA holds its first interoffice AAPI workgroup during 1 Qtr/FY 13.)
Agency-specific	Increase awareness and access to health services for AAPI Veterans in rural areas.	Increase health services in rural areas (health clinics, mobile centers, CBOs, transportation initiatives, etc.)	Health services increased in rural areas. (Specific benchmark will be identified after VA holds its first interoffice AAPI workgroup during 2 QTR/FY 13)
Agency-specific	Increase awareness and access to health services for AAPI Veterans in rural areas.	Identify and implement culturally competent interventions and practices.	Implement culturally competent interventions and practices, including those relevant to the AAPI community. (Specific benchmark will be identified after VA holds its first interoffice AAPI workgroup during 1 Qtr/FY 13.)
Agency-specific	Increase awareness and access to health services for AAPI Veterans in rural areas.	Expand ORH pilot programs for outreach to target Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander populations.	ORH pilot program expanded to AAPIs. (Specific benchmark will be identified after VA holds its first interoffice AAPI workgroup during 1 Qtr/FY 13.)
Agency-specific	Increase awareness and access to health services for AAPI Veterans in rural areas.	Evaluate feasibility of expansion of Project ARCH to serve Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander populations.	Evaluation conducted to assess the feasibility of expanding project ARCH to AAPIs. (Specific benchmark will be identified after VA holds its first interoffice AAPI workgroup during 1 Qtr/FY 13.)

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Agency-specific	Increase and improve VA services and benefits to AAPIs.	Partner with Asian American Native American Pacific Islanders Serving Institutions (AANAPISIs) and AAPI veterans groups to increase awareness of GI Bill, Native American Direct Loan Program, and other VA benefits; and support the creation/development of veteran support centers.	Partnerships created with AANAPISIs and AAPI Veterans. (Specific benchmark will be identified after VA holds its first interoffice AAPI workgroup during 1 Qtr/FY 13.)